

## SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE NEWS FOR SUNDAY 27 JUNE 2021

Good morning and welcome to the weekly news bulletin of the South African Radio League read by ..... [your name, call sign and QTH]

The South African Radio League broadcasts a news bulletin each Sunday in Afrikaans and English at 08:15 and 08:30 Central African Time respectively on HF and various VHF and UHF repeaters around the country. The bulletin is relayed on Echolink by Johan, ZS6JPL. The audio bulletins can be downloaded from the League website at [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za) while the text bulletin can be downloaded from <https://sarlnnewsbulletin.wordpress.com/>. To join the MailChimp bulletin mailing list, send an e-mail to the SARL Secretary.

In the news today:

THE OFFICE AT THE NARC CLOSED

A CONTEST FOR THE NEW RADIO AMATEURS

and

THE AMSAT-SA SPACE SYMPOSIUM ON 10 JULY

Stay tuned for more information on these and other interesting news items.

We begin this bulletin with the news of a Silent Key:

It is with deep regret that we announce that the key JP Venter, ZS6JPV went silent on the morning of Thursday 24 June 2021 due to COVID. JP was a member of the West Rand Club and well known in the community, he was also the chairman of the Quelerina CB club for many years.

We extend our sincere condolences to his wife Emerentia, daughter Anita, sons Willie and Hennie ZS6BKS, family and friends.

PAUSE

You are listening to a news bulletin of the South African Radio League.

THE OFFICE AT THE NARC CLOSED

The office at the NARC will be closed from Monday 28 June to Friday 2 July 2021, while Kelley takes a well-deserved break. The office will re-open on Monday 5 July 2021.

THE IARU HF CHAMPIONSHIPS ON 10 AND 11 JULY

The IARU HF Championships takes place from 12:00 UTC on Saturday 10 July and ends at 11:59 UTC on Sunday 11 July 2021 with CW and phone activity on 160 to 10 metres with the aim to contact as many other amateurs, especially IARU Member Society HQ stations, around the world as possible.

The exchange for IARU Member Society HQ stations, such as ZS9HQ, is a RS or RST report and official IARU member society abbreviation, IARU Officers will give a RS or RST report and AC, R1, R2 and R3 as appropriate; All others send a signal report and their ITU zone, for South Africa it is Zone 57. The ZS9HQ needs operators for the contest, you can operate from your own station using the HQ call sign. If you can operate that weekend, send your details to [contest@sarl.org.za](mailto:contest@sarl.org.za) and [hfmanager@sarl.org.za](mailto:hfmanager@sarl.org.za).

#### A CONTEST FOR THE NEW RADIO AMATEURS

The SARL Newbie Party is a fun activity to encourage all new radio amateurs to become active. The first leg runs from 08:00 to 20:00 UTC (10:00 to 22:00 CAT) on Saturday 3 July 2021 with phone activity on 80, 40 and 20 metres. The exchange and the scoring depend on the length of time that you have been a radio amateur. Log sheets in MS Excel format must be submitted by 23:59 CAT on Thursday 8 July by e-mail to [zs3vdk@webmail.co.za](mailto:zs3vdk@webmail.co.za). Get all the information on page 97 of the 2021 Contest Manual.

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#### THE AMSAT-SA SPACE SYMPOSIUM ON 10 JULY

The programme for the 2021 AMSAT SA Space symposium has been published on the SARL and AMSAT SA websites. Attendance for AMSAT SA and SARL members is free. There is a small charge for non-members. The symposium will be held on the BlueJeans platform starting at 10:00 CAT on Saturday 10 July 2021.

The keynote address will be delivered by Val Munsami, the CEO of the South African National Space Agency. Dr Gary Immelman ZS6YI will talk about a novel way to get going on QO-100, amateur radios first geostationary satellite. Dr Pierre Cilliers will talk about space weather activities at SANSA in Hermanus, Dr Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, lead of the HAMSci in the USA will present a paper entitled "The Ionosphere from your Backyard", Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP and Anton Janovsky, ZR6AIC will review the development of AfriCUBE and Burns Fisher, WB1FJ of AMSAT NA will talk about Raspberry Pi in my shack, a push-button user interface". More details about the presentation will be released in the coming week. Keep an eye on [www.amsatsa.org.za](http://www.amsatsa.org.za)

#### THE JULY 2021 RADIO ZS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

The July 2021 issue of Radio ZS can be downloaded from the Radio ZS download page on the League website. In this issue we look at the SARL SWOT Analysis shared with Region 1 and Hartmut, DG7YBN and John, ZS6JON show a new concept to build a performing 23 cm Yagi. Read more about the RSGB Radio Surfer Award and Heliographs on the Air, while Gary, ZS6YI shows us his Compact QO-100 transceiver for NB and exciter for DATV. The Voortrekkers are celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we have story from the southern Cape.

Do you know about the South African Young Ladies Radio League and the

South African Women's Radio Club? We take a look at issue 1 of Radio ZS, published in July 1947, Woody, ZS3WL takes us to the Cape Point Lighthouses, Henry, ZS6IIX tells about the hunt for the evasive interference on 125,400 MHz and we look at Learning Morse Effectively. And there is more in this 100 page edition.

#### CONTEST NEWS

Nine logs were received for the first leg of the SARL Youth Sprint held on Wednesday 16 June 2021.

1st Eastern Cape Hammies, ZS2ZU - 28 points

2nd Bryce Mclean, ZU1BM - 22 points

3rd Kiara Mclean, ZU1ISS - 20 points

The results were published in HF Happenings 952.

The ZS5 Sprint is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in Kwazulu-Natal and radio amateurs in Southern African countries and will be run from 14:00 to 15:00 UTC (16:00 to 17:00 CAT) Sunday 4 July 2021 with CW and phone activity on 40 metres. The exchange for ZS5 stations is a RS or RST report and the town name, while other give a RS or RST report and provincial or country abbreviation. Logs, in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format must be submitted by 23:59 CAT on Friday 9 July 2021 by e-mail to [zs5contest@harc.org.za](mailto:zs5contest@harc.org.za). Get all the information on page 79 of the 2021 Blue Book.

#### PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low levels. There is currently only a single sunspot region with a simple magnetic configuration visible. There is a slight chance of C-class solar flares. If you want to do your own frequency predictions, the expected effective sunspot number for the week will be around fourteen. The 17 to 30 m bands will provide some DX fun. Please visit the website [spaceweather.sansa.org.za](http://spaceweather.sansa.org.za) for further information.

Finally, a diary of some upcoming events:

29 June – the Secunda ARC meeting

1 July – the start of the SARL Financial year and the registration for the October RAE opens

3 July – the SARL Newbie contest and the Durban ARC meeting

3 and 4 July – the Marconi HF Memorial Contest

4 July – the ZS5 Sprint

9 July – provincial schools close

10 July – the RaDAR Challenge and the AMSAT SA Space Symposium  
10 and 11 July – the IARU HF Championship  
12 July – the West Rand ARC meeting  
17 July – the Winter QRP contest and the Magalies and Highway ARCs meeting  
18 July – the ZS2 Sprint  
20 July – the PEARS and Border ARC meetings  
21 July – the SARL 80 m Club Sprint

To conclude our bulletin, a recap of our main news story:

The office at the NARC will be closed from Monday 28 June to Friday 2 July 2021, while Kelley takes a well-deserved break. The office will re- open on Monday 5 July 2021.

This concludes our bulletin for this morning.

We invite clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners, in both English and Afrikaans, if possible, by following the News Inbox link on the South African Radio League web page. News items to be included in the bulletin should reach the news team no later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

You are welcome to join us every Sunday morning for the weekly radio programme, Amateur Radio Today at 10:00 CAT. The programme can be heard on VHF and UHF repeaters countrywide and on 7 082 kHz lower side-band by courtesy of Louis, ZS5LP. A rebroadcast by Andy, ZS6ADY, can be heard on Monday evenings at 19:30 CAT on 3 620 kHz.

We welcome your signal reports, comments, and suggestions; please send these by e-mail to [artoday@sarl.org.za](mailto:artoday@sarl.org.za).

You have listened to a news bulletin compiled by Andy Cairns ZS6ADY, edited by Paul Johnson, ZS1S and read by .....

From the news team, best wishes for the week ahead.